



## Summary of February 16 City Council Meeting

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, the City Council welcomed two new employees, Jennifer Gilman, Deputy City Attorney and Myra Martinez, Housing Specialist II in the Housing Authority. Both Jennifer and Myra previously worked with us on a contract/intern basis, so you may already have met them; however, if you haven't please take a moment to send them an email and welcome them officially to the organization.

The City Council approved an ordinance that will allow us to adopt a new software system called NetFile which will enable all employees and elected officials subject to the Fair California Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700 filings process to now file those online instead of in paper form. This will simplify the process for staff and for political campaign related filings as well. This is just another step in helping modernize the City Clerk's Office and providing top level customer service to our residents and staff.

City Council approved six new Boards and Commission member appointments, which included vacancies on the Park, Recreation & Senior Citizen Advisory Board, Public Art Committee and Veterans & Military Families Advisory Committee.

The City Council also approved a \$50,000 grant agreement with the San Diego Foundation to fund eight "Senior Saturday" events in Kimball Park as part of the City's Age-Friendly Communities Initiative in partnership with Circulate San Diego. The events will feature activities, programming, booths and workshops geared towards senior residents, and will include a study of utilizing parking areas within Kimball Park for future intergenerational events.

### Promotions and Organizational Changes

Recent changes to staffing levels within the organization, including the departure of the Director of Finance and the pending retirement of the City Librarian have created the opportunity to look at reporting structures to create efficiencies based upon working relationships and the long term fiscal health of the City. As a result, I'm happy to announce the promotions of two employees: Paul Valadez and Lilia Munoz. Paul will assume the role of Budget Manager and Lilia will assume the role of Human Resources Manager. Congratulations to you both!

Cost savings to fund these two position changes will be achieved by a consolidation of four Executive level positions. The first change will be a consolidation of the Director of Human Resources and Director of Finance positions into one Administrative Services Director position. The second consolidation will involve the City Librarian and Community Services Director positions into one Library & Community Services Director position. This is a result of the recent announcement of the retirement of our current City Librarian, Minh Duong, and the vacancy that exists for the Community Services Director position that is currently being filled at an interim capacity.

This change will implement a long term vision to create broader collaboration between the Library and Community Services Departments, particularly involving events and programming to more

effectively serve the public. This change will not negatively impact the programming at the Library or within Recreation, instead augmenting the caliber of the programming the public has come to expect. The cumulative proposed staffing changes will help ensure long term financial sustainability while helping address turnover within the Finance Department and providing stability and continuity in all of the departments. The City will conduct a nationwide recruitment for both Director level positions, with the goal of having those filled by June.

### **Status of San Diego County COVID Vaccine Distribution**

I wanted to provide you with a short overview on the status of vaccine distribution locally and within San Diego County. As you may have heard, a delayed shipment of vaccines caused a temporary shortage here in San Diego that forced some vaccination sites to dramatically slow their pace or reschedule appointments altogether. This delay only directly affected the Petco Park Super Station, with no vaccinations taking place on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday. Despite those setbacks, the County opened two new vaccination sites: a new super station opened Friday at the Del Mar Fairgrounds which will provide drive-thru and walk-thru services on an appointment-only basis to anyone eligible to receive a shot under county guidelines. A new vaccination site also opened Sunday in Vista, capable of providing up to 500 doses daily. San Diego County has administered 597,945 doses to date, with a total of 16.44% of San Diego County residents age 16 and over have received at least one of the two shots required, with approximately 4.02% of the population over the age of 16 are now fully vaccinated.

### **How to Register for Your Vaccine Appointment**

Information and details on COVID-19 vaccination sites are available on the County's COVID-19 Vaccine [website](#), including our very own MLK Center. I highly encourage staff to sign-up if you or members of your family fall within the [Phase 1A or 1B tiers](#). If you haven't already, please register with [myturn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov). My Turn is where you can find out if it's your turn to get vaccinated and schedule vaccination appointments. You can also register to be notified when you become eligible. The County is slowly working to improve the reservation system so please be patient. State health officials said on Friday that effective March 15, vaccines can be provided to anyone aged 16-46 with severe underlying health conditions such as cancer, chronic pulmonary disease, heart conditions or kidney disease that put them at risk of severe illness or death if they contract the virus. The new guidance also allows vaccinations for people with developmental or severe disabilities that leave them at high-risk if they are infected. This is in addition to those residents who already qualify under Tiers 1A and 1B.